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April 30, 1997

APR 30 1997

**FEDERAL COMMUNICATIONS COMMISSION
OFFICE OF SECRETARY**

Mr. William F. Caton
Acting Secretary
Federal Communications Commission
Washington, D.C. 20554

Re: COMSAT Corporation Petition for Partial Relief
(RM-7913)

Dear Mr. Caton:

In furtherance of its obligation to ensure the continuing accuracy and completeness of information furnished to the Commission in connection with a pending proceeding, as specified in Section 1.65 of the Commission's Rules, 47 U.S.C. § 1.65, COMSAT Corporation (COMSAT) hereby supplies the attached press reports providing updated data relevant to the above-captioned proceeding.

Specifically, it now appears that the competitiveness of the occasional use video market is even greater than COMSAT's petition demonstrates. According to the attached articles, PanAmSat recently announced that it will provide more than 5,000 hours of transponder time to British Telecom Broadcast Services for occasional use service to cover news and sports events. The article also notes that this capacity will be made available on a global basis. Significantly, the total amount of occasional use television provided by COMSAT during 1996 was only 6,475 half-channel hours. Since PanAmSat provides whole channels, the comparable total for its BT business alone is 10,000 half-channel hours. In other words, PanAmSat does more business with one occasional use customer than COMSAT does with all of its occasional use customers.

In addition, PanAmSat has reported record 1997 first quarter revenue for its "ad hoc and special events" video offerings. Indeed, PanAmSat's first quarter revenue for its broadcast services was \$64.7 million, as compared to COMSAT's broadcast service revenue for the first quarter of \$9.3 million.

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We respectfully request the International Bureau to take official notice of these facts in considering COMSAT's pending petition for streamlined tariff treatment of its video service offerings.

Respectfully submitted,

COMSAT Corporation

A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to read "Keith H. Fagan", written in a cursive style.

Howard D. Polsky
Keith H. Fagan

cc: All parties

DOW JONES - 4/22/97

PanAmSat Corp. posted 1Q:97 revenues of \$75.3 million, an increase of 49% over total revenues of \$50.4 million for the same period in 1996. EBITDA for the first quarter of 1997 was \$55.6 million, an increase of 52% as compared with \$36.6 million in 1Q:96. PanAmSat experienced significant revenue increases during the first quarter of 1997 for broadcast services, including record increases in ad hoc and special events traffic and revenues. Broadcast services revenue for the quarter was \$64.7 million, an increase of 63% over 1Q:96. In addition to robust traffic in ad hoc services, the increase in broadcast services revenue was primarily due to the commencement of new video service agreements on the PAS-3 satellite and continuing increases in broadcast traffic and revenue on the PAS-2 and PAS-4 satellites. PanAmSat reported that net income rose 54% to \$24.6 million for 1Q:97.

↑ PanAmSat announced occasional-use satellite capacity contract with British Telecom (BT), which will use more than 5,000 hours of transponder time by 1999. Capacity will be available on global basis, PanAmSat said. BT said it's able to estimate how much capacity it will need to cover news and sports. "The big question is usually where and when that capacity will be needed," it said. Contract provides BT Bcst. Services with increased flexibility because it allows access to any of PanAmSat's current or planned satellites, companies said. Terms weren't disclosed.

CERTIFICATE OF SERVICE

This is to certify that on April 30, 1997, a true and correct copy of the attached letter was sent via first-class mail, postage pre-paid to the following:

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Date: April 30, 1997